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Memorandum 09 October 2003

From: Jeffrey Harlow (LANTDIV), Greyson Franklin (EPA), Steve Mihalko (VDEQ),
Channing Blackwell CNRMA)

To: File

Subj: YORKTOWN, CHEATHAM ANNEX SITE-1 PHYSICAL CHANGES DUE TO
HURRICANE ISABEL

Ref: (a) Final Action Memorandum for Contaminated Soil Site 1-- Landfill Near Incinerator
Naval Weapons Station Yorktown Yorktown, Virginia Cheatham Annex Site dtd June 2003

Encl: Site Photos (before and after Isabel)

1. The Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA) Yorktown, Cheatham Annex Site, Site 1 was impacted significantly by Hurricane Isabel and its tidal surge. The storm initially eroded horizontally the shoreline bluff a minimum of five feet. As the storm progressed, coarse sand was deposited on the shoreline creating a sand beach extending from original bluff by more than 40 feet. This newly deposited sand is already beginning to erode. See enclosed photos. Also during the storm, landfill debris from Site 1 was exposed at the shoreline adjacent to the "Geotubes" placed on-site several years ago during a Time Critical Removal Action. The Partnering Team decided that it was necessary to revisit the site and determine if any technical changes needed to be addressed due to Hurricane Isabel.

2. Members of the IR Partnering Team [Steve Mihalko (VDEQ), Greyson Franklin (USEPA), Channing Blackwell (CNRMA), & Jeffrey Harlow (LANTDIV)] and John McCloskey (US Fish and Wildlife) had a CAX Site 1 visit on Wednesday, Oct 1st. The purpose of the visit was to review the status of the Removal Action being done in accordance with Reference (a) and determine any impacts to the selected alternative resulting from Hurricane Isabel.

The team summarized the following from the OCT 1 site visit in their Partnering Meeting on 02 October 2003:

1) Remaining sediments of concern (BHATE grids 8, 10B, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20 and 22) at the toe of slope will be addressed in the Round II RI BERA. A significant amount of sandy soil material washed into the future wetlands restoration area, and it was determined that potential sediments of concern do not constitute a threat of ecological exposure due to this cover of material. No further grading of the down-gradient area will be done at this time. John McCloskey requested that fescue not be used in planting the upland site.

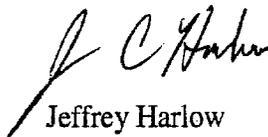
2) The newly encountered lens of debris and contaminated material will stay in place and be removed at a later date. The additional material has been visually delineated both horizontally and vertically using both trenching methods and hand auguring techniques and appears to be ash material similar to that found in the landfill. It was decided not to remove the material at this time due to the fact that limited funds for the site may preclude complete removal of the material as it is unclear at this point the complete

extent of the contamination. It was decided that the boundaries of the area be marked with GIS coordinates to facilitate future removal.

3) It was agreed that, with funding restrictions, moving forward with construction of breakwaters to protect site, sediments, and remaining waste was imperative. Erosion of the shoreline and deposition of sand and debris from Hurricane Isabel showed the vulnerability of the shoreline to storm impacts and the need for permanent shoreline protection. The team concluded the breakwater alternative presented in the EECA is still the preferred action to address the remaining wastes on the site and provide a viable shoreline protection system. The breakwaters will protect the immediate threat of shoreline debris from eroding into the York River. In addition the breakwaters will protect the contaminated sediments in the existing wetland and contaminated sediments in the adjacent, newly expanded wetland (approx. $\frac{3}{4}$ acre) from eroding into the York River. These contaminated sediments will be further investigated under a Round II Remedial Investigation (BERA) and incorporated in a Final ROD.

4) Due to the proximity of the newly discovered lens of debris/contaminated material, it was decided to leave the "Geotubes" in place. The "Geotubes" may be removed after the breakwaters are constructed and all shore debris is removed.

3. This memo will be included in the Admin Record in order to document the physical changes to the site and reevaluate the conclusions of Action Memorandum and EECA.



Jeffrey Harlow
For The IR Partnering Team
RPM Naval Weapons Station Yorktown



